

CLAIMS

1. Pod for evacuating persons, including a central mast (1, 8), a support section (9) of which bears ends (31) of arms (30) pivotally mounted so that respective opposed
5 free sections (32) are, in the folded back position substantially axial in relation to an axis of the mast (1, 8), maintained by a removable locking device, characterised by the fact that the locking device comprises an axially movable crown member (10) disposed at an axial distance
10 from the support section (9), to radially maintain the arms (30) in a locking hold condition, the crown member (10) being held in locking position through a hysteresis effect in which the crown member (10) can be driven, through the unloading of a loaded spring (20) one end of which occupies
15 a counter-pressure position axially fixed in relation to the mast (1, 8), in a movement of recoil from its locking hold condition, only after an additional loading of the spring (20) by an external force in order to release a mobile stop member (21), for inhibiting the action of the
20 spring (20), held in precarious anti-recoil stop equilibrium by the crown member (10).

2. Pod according to claim 1, in which the crown member (10) is slidably mounted on an opposed section (2) of the mast (1, 8).

25 3. Pod according to claim 1, in which the crown member (10) is slidably mounted on a section of a particular one of the arms (30).

4. Pod according to claim 3, in which the spring (20) is arranged so that its counter-pressure is exerted on a
30 lateral relief portion of the particular arm (30).

5. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 4, in which the stop member (21) is arranged to take on a counter-pressure on a lateral relief portion of one of the arms (30).

6. Pod according to claims 1 to 5, in which there are provided means (22) for driving the stop member (21) out of a position correspondong to said precarious equilibrium.

7. Pod according to claim 6, in which the means for driving the stop member (21) comprise a return spring (22).

8. Pod according to claim 6, in which the means for driving the stop member (21) comprise a link fixed to the crown member (10).

9. Pod according to claim 6, in which the means for driving the stop member (21) comprise a ramp of the crown member (10), partially extending radially in relation to the mast (1, 8), engaging with an opposed ramp on the stop member (21), to radially push back the stop member (21) out of its position of unstable equilibrium, when the crown member (10) moves away from the stop member (21) when the spring (20) is additionally loaded.

10. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 9, in which the crown member (10) comprises an axial relief portion (15) for maintaining the stop member (21) in said unstable equilibrium.

11. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 10, in which the stop member (21) is mounted so as to be movable on the mast (1, 8).

12. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 10, in which the stop member (21) is mounted so as to be movable on the crown member (10).

13. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 12, in which the stop member (21) is mounted pivotally.

14. Pod according to claim 13, in which the stop member (21) is mounted so as to pivot elastically about an axis substantially parallel to a sliding direction of the crown member (10) so as to be drawn back, out of a position of precarious equilibrium, into an angular sector affording it free axial passage.

15. Pod according to one of claims 13 and 14, in which the stop member (21) is associated with a member limiting a pivoting range, defining a position of precarious equilibrium.

16. Pod according to claim 15, in which the stop member (21) has a travel path intersecting, in the position of precarious equilibrium, that of another stop forming said member limiting the pivoting range.

17. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 16, in which the stop member (21) comprises a hook having an inner abutment surface cooperating with a relief portion for retaining the crown member (10).

18. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 17, in which the stop member (21) has the shape of a cam arranged for, when located outside the position of precarious equilibrium, being driven by the crown member (10) out of the recoil travel path of the latter.

19. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 18, in which the crown member (10) has a determined mass to perform said additional loading of the spring (20) in the event of a threshold of deceleration being exceeded.

20. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 19, in which the crown member (10) is formed by a ring (11) bearing tabs for holding the free sections (32) of the respective arms.

21. Pod according to claim 20, in which the mast (1, 8) is externally threaded over a recoil travel path section

on which the crown member (10) recoils, said externally threaded section cooperating with an internal thread of the crown member (10) so as to angularly offset, in the recoil travel movement, sectors, of the tabs, arranged for causing said locking hold condition, said offset being in relation to fixed sectors occupied by the free sections (32) of the arms (30).

22. Pod according to one of claims 1 to 21, in which the crown member (10) is arranged to cooperate with a safety mechanism provided for holding the crown member (10) in a position of locking hold condition of the arms (30).

23. Pod according to claim 22, in which the mast (1, 8) has a non-circular cross-section fitted to a shape corresponding sliding member (11) for axial sliding of the crown member (10) to angularly index the crown member (10), with the mast (1, 8) having, in the area of the position of the crown member (10) locking the arms (30), a section with a non-fitted cross-section delimiting a circumferential lateral passage accessible to the sliding member (11) through rotation of the crown member (10) by an operator and having two axially opposed shoulders for holding the crown member (10) in the axial position for locking the arms (30).

24. Pod according to claim 22, in which the crown member (10) belongs to a head (2) of the mast (1, 8) comprising a slide means of the safety mechanism, movable in a radial plane of the mast (1, 8) to cooperate with at least one shoulder facing the crown member (10) in order to axially block the crown member (10) in at least one sliding direction.